

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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25X1

COUNTRY	USSR	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Interpretation of Current Soviet Tactics	DATE DISTR.	21 April 1953
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	25X1

BY CABLE

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1. [] present Soviet moves are designed to strengthen the position of Malenkov and Beriya internally through an apparent relaxation of police state methods and externally through marginal "peace offers", which are no expense to the Soviets but which will impress wavering Western politicians [] and peoples and tend to allay fears of general conflict between East and West. 25X1
2. [] it is most important that West leaders do not overlook the fact that Soviet basic aims remain unchanged by this diversion and that a lag in implementing Western defense plans will give the new Soviet team an advantage in establishing the proper footing at home and maintaining a military edge over the West allies. 25X1
3. [] the original charges against the doctors were due to a stroke suffered by Stalin and that the removal of the doctors was aimed at reassuring him. The reversal of tactics is now favorable to Malenkov in attempting to gain the allegiance of the Soviet people. Beriya's position is maintained unimpaired by the purging of Ignatyev et al. 25X1
4. The impact on Communist parties outside of the Soviet orbit is reflected in the confusion and insecurity of the present leaders, many of whom are loyal to Stalin. 25X1

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

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